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Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
Twelfth session
New York, 20-31 May 2013
Agenda item 3
Follow-up on the recommendations of the Permanent Forum: (a) health; (b) education; (c) culture

Recommendations of the Permanent Forum

Recommendations on health

1. The Permanent Forum has identified the proposals, objectives, recommendations and areas of possible future action set out below and, through the Economic and Social Council, recommends that States, entities of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations, indigenous peoples, the private sector and non-governmental organizations assist in their realization.

2. It is the understanding of the Secretariat that the proposals, objectives, recommendations and areas of possible future action to be carried out by the United Nations, as set out below, will be implemented to the extent that resources from the regular budget and extrabudgetary resources are available.

3. The right to health materializes through the well-being of an individual as well as the social, emotional, spiritual and cultural well-being of the whole community. Colonization, including policies of oppression, dispossession and assimilation, have led to the health challenges faced by many indigenous peoples today, which will also affect future generations. As a consequence, the health of indigenous peoples is weakened by a range of underlying social and economic determinants, including poverty, inadequate housing, lack of education, food insecurity, lower employment, loss of traditional lands and languages, barriers to political participation and institutionalized racism. The health gap between indigenous peoples and others is clear evidence of the discriminatory structures that are in conflict with human rights and indigenous peoples' rights in particular. They demonstrate the need for Governments and United Nations entities to refocus their efforts in fulfilling their obligations towards indigenous peoples.

4. The Permanent Forum recalls the many recommendations that call for the statistics on indigenous health. Data collection and disaggregation remain a challenge. In particular, the delivery of health care in rural and remote areas remains a major obstacle to the right to health. In addition, there remains an urgent need for more

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indigenous health professionals, mental health services, programmes addressing non-communicable diseases and reproductive health. In particular, the Forum reaffirms the recommendation of the eighth session for an expert group meeting on sexual and reproductive health.

5. Good practices are emerging that complement public health services with traditional health practices. These practices emphasize intercultural dialogue and discussion to ensure that the delivery of health care is carried out in a culturally specific way consistent with articles 23 and 24 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. These practices should be supported and promoted.

6. In sexual and reproductive rights there is a need for HIV- and gender- and age-sensitive sexual health education that respects cultural sensitivities in pre- and post-testing conditions and delivery of services:

(a) In the design and implementation of the strategic plan, 2014-2018, of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), to take into consideration the rights of indigenous women and young people;

(b) To contribute to the ministries of health and indigenous women's organizations to consolidate their work on intercultural standards for quality sexual and reproductive health and maternal health in the Latin American region and to assess experiences on intercultural health models in other regions of the world in order to identify opportunities for South-South cooperation;

(c) To ensure the integration of indigenous peoples' rights in national and subnational strategies on gender-based violence and to promote the delivery of culturally acceptable critical services to address gender-based violence and sexual violence, with a focus on adolescents, youth and migrant indigenous women;

(d) With the United Nations country teams, to contribute to strengthen the integration of the rights of indigenous women and youth in national and subnational development strategies and sectoral plans, particularly but not exclusively in the areas of sexual and reproductive health, maternal mortality and morbidity as well as in adolescent and youth policies and plans;

(e) To contribute supporting work at the country level on the elimination of female genital mutilation/cutting among indigenous girls, including the elimination of other forms of harmful practices, for example early and forced marriage and early unwanted pregnancies;

(f) To promote indigenous young peoples' rights, at the regional and country levels, including their participation in the International Conference on Population and Development Beyond 2014 processes, and, where possible, their participation in UNFPA-led discussions on the 2015 development agenda.

7. The Permanent Forum reiterates its previous recommendations that address the alarming numbers of suicides among indigenous youth. The Forum encourages community organization for safe spaces and low-threshold health services, respecting non-discrimination, in particular where discrimination based on ethnicity, gender and sexual orientation is concerned. The United Nations system, in particular the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), should emphasize the provision of mental health services, with particular efforts to address suicide among indigenous youth.

8. In order to draw more heightened attention to diabetes and other non-communicable diseases, the Permanent Forum recommends that WHO/Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and Governments develop action plans to improve access by indigenous peoples living with diabetes to health prevention and care of diabetes and non-communicable diseases. The Forum urges States to establish or reinforce community-based health programmes that empower and educate indigenous women and children to prevent and overcome diabetes and non-communicable diseases.

9. The Permanent Forum requests WHO/PAHO to undertake a global study jointly with relevant indigenous peoples' institutions and indigenous health experts on the situation of indigenous peoples living with diabetes and non-communicable diseases so as to establish the international evidence base needed. The results of the study can be presented at the fourteenth session of the Forum and in appropriate processes within WHO/PAHO. Special attention should be placed on indigenous persons with diabetes in developing countries, as there are hardly any studies from such countries. Furthermore, the Forum calls upon the World Diabetes Foundation and the International Diabetes Federation to provide financial and technical assistance to WHO/PAHO and identified indigenous institutions that will conduct the study.

10. The Permanent Forum calls for heightened attention to diabetes and other non-communicable diseases by WHO/PAHO and States, including the United Nations World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, to be held in 2014, and calls upon these parties to discuss issues related to indigenous health and formulate an action plan with particular focus on improving the prevention and access to the care of diabetes and non-communicable diseases.

11. The Permanent Forum requests WHO, in cooperation with indigenous health providers, to conduct a study on the prevalence and causes of suicide among indigenous youth, and on efforts being undertaken, including culture-based approaches, to prevent suicide and promote mental health and wellness, and requests the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues, WHO and UNICEF to organize an expert group meeting to review policies and best practices with regard to engaging indigenous youth on the prevention of suicide among them.

Recommendations on education

12. Indigenous peoples who maintain cultural practices and lifestyles based on their traditional knowledge, their vision of the world and their spirituality, are confronted by educational systems that have little regard for indigenous cultures, indigenous languages and indigenous knowledge. Education is a driver for development. It is well established that improved educational outcomes have a positive impact upon indigenous participation across the range of socioeconomic indicators. Yet the evidence suggests that the poorest areas receive the poorest education, which is especially the case for indigenous peoples. An urgent challenge facing indigenous peoples and indigenous children today is the lack of access to quality education entailing relevant skills for indigenous peoples and their communities.

13. The Permanent Forum affirms that articles 11 to 15 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples provide a critical framework for ensuring necessary transformative changes in indigenous education as well as ensuring the exercise of the right to self-determination. Indigenous peoples have the

right to be involved in defining and developing educational priorities and initiatives, including laws, regulations and policies, which have a direct impact upon them. Such educational systems should respect, recognize and include indigenous peoples' world views, cultures, languages and traditional knowledge, while ensuring gender equality and the recognition of traditional knowledge-keepers as the pedagogical authorities.

14. The Permanent Forum encourages States and United Nations agencies and funds to implement, in cooperation with indigenous peoples, proactive and substantive measures to realize the full and effective implementation of the rights laid down in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. These measures would include increased and greater accessibility for indigenous learners who live in remote areas or in nomadic communities. The Forum calls upon States to respect and implement article 19 of the Declaration by ensuring the free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples before adopting and implementing legislative or administrative measures which affect them.

15. Education in the mother tongue and bilingual education, foremost in primary and secondary schools, lead to effective and long-term successful educational outcomes. The Permanent Forum urges States to fund and implement the Programme of Action of the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples, specifically in the following education-related objective. The Forum underlines the need for States to respect and promote indigenous peoples' definitions of learning and education, founded on the values and priorities of the relevant indigenous peoples. The right to education is independent of State borders and should be expressed by indigenous peoples' right to freely traverse borders, as supported by articles 9 and 36 of the Declaration.

16. The Permanent Forum recommends, based on articles 14 and 15 of the Declaration, that States support indigenous peoples in establishing their own educational systems and institutions, including universities. Specific measures should be established to support indigenous, intercultural and community higher educational institutions and programmes in their academic, organizational, financial and accreditation processes. An excellent example of best practices in this regard is when compulsory indigenous studies are included in the curricula of higher educational institutions. The Forum urges States to recognize the importance of the Higher Education Sustainability Initiative, launched during the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development of 2012, and to incorporate the knowledge, history and proposals of indigenous peoples in the activities to be undertaken.

17. The Permanent Forum recalls the recommendations contained in paragraphs 48 and 56 of the report of the international expert group meeting on indigenous youth (E/C.19/2013/3), emphasizing that linguistic education and linguistic sovereignty are of fundamental importance to indigenous peoples. The Forum recommends that the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), UNICEF and other competent bodies of the United Nations convene, together with the Forum, a meeting of experts on intercultural matters and bilingual education.

18. Indigenous persons with disabilities face exceptionally difficult barriers both because they are indigenous and because they are disabled. The Permanent Forum recommends that States develop and provide full access to educational opportunities on an equitable basis and without discrimination for indigenous persons, as recognized in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. In particular, the Forum recommends that sign language education curricula be developed, in

consultation with deaf indigenous persons, which reflect their cultures, issues, needs and preferences. Where there is State or international cooperation on education, indigenous persons with disabilities should be included. The Forum recommends that countries which have not already ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities do so urgently.

19. The Permanent Forum recommends that States, in collaboration with indigenous peoples and United Nations agencies, including UNICEF and UNESCO, prepare a comprehensive report on the number of indigenous languages spoken in each State. It is important to identify the current numbers and ages of fluent speakers of each indigenous language, and that measures, including constitutional, legislative, regulatory and policy measures as well as financial support, whether ongoing or project-based, undertaken by States, United Nations agencies and indigenous peoples, to ensure that indigenous languages continue to be used, survive and thrive so that indigenous languages do not become extinct.

Recommendations on culture

20. The Permanent Forum recognizes culture as the fourth pillar of sustainable development. It has always been recognized by indigenous peoples that the three pillars of the concept of sustainable development (economic viability, social inclusion and environmental balance) were not enough to reflect the complexity of indigenous peoples' societies. Indigenous peoples see the cultural pillar as encompassing the cultural and spiritual traditions of humanity.

21. During the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), the members of the Permanent Forum were not able to register as United Nations experts. Forum members attend many United Nations meetings where their specific status is not recognized. Therefore, the Forum recommends that United Nations agencies such as the United Nations Environment Programme and UNESCO amend their registration processes to include Forum members as United Nations experts, not as part of major groups.

22. Recalling paragraph 120 of its report on the eleventh session (E/2012/43), the Permanent Forum notes the cooperative work carried out by the World Heritage Committee with Forum members and indigenous peoples in the nomination and review of world heritage sites. At the same time, the Forum is aware that the security protocols for cultural heritage sites often result in indigenous peoples being excluded from or denied access to those indigenous heritage sites (temples, cultural heritage quarries, rock shelters, carved trees, engravings, paintings, travel routes and grinding grooves), which are classified as the common heritage of humankind. The Forum recommends that UNESCO revise such procedures and protocols, taking into account indigenous peoples' rights and full participation in world heritage sites.

23. Sustainable development means pursuing economic activities that meet the needs of indigenous peoples without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Indigenous tourism is often seen as a major growth and development driver in terms of supporting indigenous peoples' economies and businesses. At the same time, indigenous peoples themselves are viewed as tourist icons. Therefore, the Permanent Forum recommends that discussions with relevant United Nations agencies be considered in order for indigenous peoples to determine their own representations and tourism opportunities.

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Economic and Social Council

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Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
Twelfth session
New York, 20-31 May 2013

Draft report

Rapporteur: Ms. Eva **Biaudet**

I. Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention

[To be completed]

II. Venue, dates and proceedings of the session

1. By its decision 2012/244, the Economic and Social Council decided that the twelfth session of the Permanent Forum would be held at United Nations Headquarters from 20 to 31 May 2013.

2. At its 2nd to 4th meetings, on 20 May 2013, the Permanent Forum considered agenda item 3, "Follow-up on the recommendations of the Permanent Forum: (a) Health; (b) Education; (c) Culture". For its consideration of the item, the Forum had before it the report of the international expert group meeting on indigenous youth: identity, challenges and hope: articles 14, 17, 21 and 25 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (E/C.19/2013/3), a study on how the knowledge, history and contemporary social circumstances of indigenous peoples are embedded in the curricula of education systems (E/C.19/2013/17) and an analysis of health, education and culture prepared by the secretariat of the Forum (E/C.19/2013/19). At its 16th meeting, on 31 May 2013, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under agenda item 3 (see chap. I, sect. B).

3. At its 7th meeting, on 23 May, the Forum considered agenda item 4, "Half-day discussion on the African region". For its consideration of the item, the Forum had before it a study on resilience, traditional knowledge and capacity-building for pastoralist communities in Africa (E/C.19/2013/5). At its 16th meeting, on 31 May, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under agenda item 4 (see chap. I, sect. B).

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4. At its 8th and 9th meetings, on 24 May, the Forum considered agenda item 5, "Comprehensive dialogue with United Nations agencies and funds", during which there was a dialogue with international financial institutions. For its consideration of the item, the Forum had before it a review of World Bank operational policies (E/C.19/2013/15), a report on indigenous people's rights and safeguards in projects related to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (E/C.19/2013/7) and the report of the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues annual meting for 2012 (E/C.19/2013/4). At its 16th meeting, on 31 May, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under agenda item 5 (see chap. I, sect. B).

5. At its 10th and 11th meetings, on 28 May, the Forum considered agenda item 6, "Discussion on the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples". For its consideration of the item, the Forum had before it studies on national constitutions and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (E/C.19/2013/18) and on the links between the rights of indigenous peoples, truth commissions and other truth-seeking mechanisms on the American continent (E/C.19/2013/13). It also heard an oral report on the situation of indigenous peoples and their participation in democracies and electoral processes in Latin America under the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. At its 16th meeting, on 31 May, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under agenda item 6 (see chap. I, sect. B).

6. At its 5th and 6th meetings, on 22 May, the Forum considered agenda item 7, "Human rights: (a) Implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; (b) Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples and the Chair of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples". For its consideration of the item, the Forum had before it studies on the situation of indigenous persons with disabilities, with a particular focus on challenges faced with regard to the full enjoyment of human rights and inclusion in development (E/C.19/2013/6) and on the extent of violence against indigenous women and girls in terms of article 22 (2) of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (E/C.19/2013/9). At its 16th meeting, on 31 May 2013, the Forum considered and adopted its recommendations submitted under agenda item 7 (see chap. I, sect. B).

7. At its 12th to 14th meetings, on 29 and 30 May, the Forum considered agenda item 8, "Future work of the Permanent Forum, including issues of the Economic and Social Council and emerging issues". For its consideration of the item, the Forum had before it a consolidated report on extractive industries and their impact on indigenous peoples (E/C.19/2013/16) and studies on the extractive industries in Mexico and the situation of indigenous peoples in the territories in which those industries are located (E/C.19/2013/11), on the impact of the mining boom on indigenous communities in Australia (E/C.19/2013/20), on indigenous women's political participation at the international, national and local levels (E/C.19/2013/10), on the right to participation of indigenous youth in the Nordic countries in decision-making processes (E/C.19/2013/8) and on decolonization of the Pacific region (E/C.19/2013/12). At its 16th meeting, on 31 May, the Forum considered and adopted a draft decision and its recommendations submitted under agenda item 8 (see chap. I, sects. A and B).

8. At its 15th meeting, on 30 May, the Forum considered agenda item 9, "Draft agenda for the thirteenth session of the Permanent Forum". At its 16th meeting, on 31 May, the Forum considered and adopted a draft decision submitted under agenda item 9 (see chap. I, sect. A).

III. Adoption of the report of the Permanent Forum on its twelfth session

9. At the 16th meeting, on 31 May, the Rapporteur introduced the draft decisions and recommendations and the draft report of the Permanent Forum on its twelfth session.

10. At the same meeting, the Permanent Forum adopted its draft report.

IV. Organization of the session

A. Opening and duration of the session

11. The Permanent Forum held its twelfth session at United Nations Headquarters from 20 to 31 May 2013. It held 16 formal meetings and 2 closed meetings to consider the items on its agenda.

12. At the 1st meeting, on 20 May, the session was opened by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs. At the opening ceremony, Tododaho Sid Hill, of the Onondaga Nation, delivered a welcoming address. The President of the Economic and Social Council and the Acting President of the General Assembly delivered statements.

13. At the same meeting, statements were made by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs and the Chair of the Permanent Forum.

14. At the closing (16th) meeting, on 31 May, the Deputy Secretary-General made a statement.

B. Attendance

15. Members of the Forum and representatives of Governments, intergovernmental organizations and bodies, United Nations entities, and non-governmental and indigenous organizations attended the session. The list of participants is contained in document E/C.19/2013/INF/1.

C. Election of officers

16. At its 1st meeting, on 20 May, the Forum elected the following members of the Bureau by acclamation:

Chair:
Paul Kanyinke Sena

Vice-Chairs:
Raja Devasish Roy
Viktoria Tuulas
Saul Vicente
Bertie Xavier

Rapporteur:
Eva Biaudet

D. Agenda

17. At its 1st meeting, on 20 May, the Forum adopted the provisional agenda as contained in document E/C.19/2013/1.

E. Documentation

18. A list of the documents before the Forum at its twelfth session is contained in document E/C.19/2013/INF/2.

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Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
Twelfth session
New York, 20-31 May 2013
Agenda item 4
Half-day discussion on the African Region

Follow-up to the recommendations of the Permanent Forum

1. The Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues has identified the proposals, objectives, recommendations and areas of possible future action set out below and, through the Economic and Social Council, recommends that States, entities of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations, indigenous peoples, the private sector and non-governmental organizations assist in their realization.

2. It is the understanding of the secretariat of the Forum that the proposals, objectives, recommendations and areas of possible future action to be carried out by the United Nations, as set out below, will be implemented in accordance with the availability of regular budget and extrabudgetary resources.

3. The Permanent Forum recognizes that groups identified as comprising indigenous peoples on the African continent have suffered, and continue to suffer, particular injustices, including the denial of their basic human rights, such as the right to recognition and the right to lands, territories and related resources. The Forum notes with concern that the land-based culture that characterizes indigenous peoples in Africa is often regarded as non-economically active, uncivilized and retrograde. Such views constitute a serious impediment to the enjoyment and fulfilment of the internationally recognized human rights of indigenous peoples.

4. The continuing denial of indigenous peoples' rights to lands, territories and resources, based upon various racist doctrines, theories and policies, including on lands occupied or otherwise used, historically and currently, has led, inter alia, to the eviction of indigenous peoples from their lands and the erosion of their hunting and other traditional occupations and lifestyles, thereby threatening their very survival and well-being as peoples. It is necessary to ensure that bans, such as on hunting and other traditional livelihoods, do not infringe upon the rights of indigenous peoples.

5. The Permanent Forum recognizes that many positive developments regarding the recognition of indigenous peoples and the need to protect and promote their rights have taken place over the past years and welcomes the leading role of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and the Expert Mechanism on

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Indigenous Populations in recognizing indigenous peoples on the African continent and promoting their rights. Several African countries have also contributed to the development of the recognition of indigenous peoples. The Forum notes with appreciation the ratification by the Central African Republic of International Labour Organization Convention No. 169 on indigenous and tribal peoples; the passage by the Congo of Law No. 5-2011, on the promotion and protection of indigenous populations, and the establishment of a legal platform to address the situation of indigenous peoples in the country; and the introduction of quotas for the Batwa indigenous people in Burundi. The practice by African States of supporting indigenous peoples is developing and should be encouraged.

6. While the concept of indigenous peoples in Africa has been conceptualized and adopted by African Union bodies, including at the Heads of State summits, there is still a need for awareness-raising about indigenous peoples on the continent, and for robust and effective measures, including legislative measures, to ensure recognition of and respect for their human rights. Likewise, while the rights of indigenous peoples have been supported in African courts and in decisions by the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and the African Court of Justice and Human Rights, gaps in implementation remain widespread. The Permanent Forum urges the concerned States to implement the decision of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights in the *Endorois* case; the verdict of the African Court of Justice and Human Rights in the *Ogiek* case; and the Botswana High Court decision in the case concerning the Kalahari Game Reserve. These cases are important since they contribute to the development of jurisprudence on the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

7. The Permanent Forum welcomes the lively and analytical dialogue that emerged from the half-day discussion on the African region and encourages the United Nations Development Group to facilitate further dialogue between States and indigenous peoples at the African continental level to foster better understanding of the Declaration and the commitments to indigenous peoples that Member States have made. Within this framework, capacity-building at the national level should be enhanced.

8. The Permanent Forum encourages States and multilateral environmental agencies and other conservation agencies to adopt a rights-based approach to conservation and follow-up and to systematically evaluate how the rights are implemented.

9. The Permanent Forum recognizes the particular concerns of African indigenous youth, who are striving against political, social and economic challenges, poverty, marginalization, and a lack of capacity development and employment. The Permanent Forum calls upon, inter alia, the Economic Commission for Africa, and the African Union, including the New Partnership for Africa's Development, to provide adequate capacity-building programmes and opportunities to enable African indigenous youth to engage meaningfully with States and other key development players, including by organizing and sponsoring attendance at trainings, conferences and other forums on indigenous issues.

10. The Permanent Forum invites the agencies of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Development Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Fund for Agricultural

Development, in cooperation with the secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, to convene a workshop on African pastoralism, indigenous peoples' rights and climate adaptation.

11. The Permanent Forum calls upon States to make sure that national policies regarding indigenous pastoralism comply with the United Nations Declaration.

12. The Permanent Forum acknowledges that indigenous women in Africa face multiple forms of discrimination and several related challenges, including limited access to quality health care, and sexual and reproductive health services; limited access to quality and relevant education; limited access to economic empowerment, vocational training and capacity-building programmes and processes; denial or limited access to property rights and violation of their rights to inherit land; vulnerability to conflicts; gender-based domestic, psychological and physical violence; and food insecurity.

13. The Permanent Forum calls upon the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Development Programme and other entities of the United Nations system to develop programmes and projects that support and build the capacity of indigenous women in Africa in order to empower them economically and socially. A good practice in this regard is strengthening the entrepreneurship of indigenous women and facilitating their access to formal markets and financial institutions for their activities. The Permanent Forum also encourages States to develop affirmative actions that are aimed at actively including indigenous women in decision-making at all levels and at ensuring that indigenous women's voices are equally represented in the economic, social and political decision-making processes.

14. The Permanent Forum notes the vulnerable position of indigenous women in Africa. Indigenous women in Africa constitute a marginalized group in broader society and within indigenous communities. The high rate of indigenous children who are out of school requires urgent attention, in particular in respect of securing access by girls to quality and relevant education that respects the cultures and traditions of the communities and that is responsive to their needs. Since many indigenous peoples live in regions that have been defined as geographically remote or inaccessible, and many services do not reach such indigenous communities, there are serious challenges regarding, for example, the long distances required to reach hospitals and health-care centres, which cause maternal mortality rates in indigenous communities to be disproportionately high. The Permanent Forum urges States to ensure that mobile health services reach remote areas.

15. The Permanent Forum notes the increasing operation activity of extractive industries and other large-scale development projects that is taking place on or near the territories of indigenous peoples in many African States, often without the involvement of indigenous peoples and without their free, prior and informed consent. The Forum recommends that African States must respect the United Nations Declaration, in particular the right of indigenous peoples to free, prior and informed consent.

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Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
Twelfth session
New York, 20-31 May 2013
Item 7 of the provisional agenda*
Human rights

Follow-up on the recommendations of the Permanent Forum

1. The Permanent Forum has identified the proposals, the objectives, the recommendations and the areas of possible future action set out below and, through the Economic and Social Council, recommends that States, entities of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations, indigenous peoples, the private sector and non-governmental organizations assist in their realization.

2. It is the understanding of the secretariat that the proposals, the objectives, the recommendations and the areas of possible future action to be carried out by the United Nations, as set out below, will be implemented to the extent that resources from the regular budget and extrabudgetary resources are available.

3. During the twelfth session of the Permanent Forum, the Forum members held a very constructive dialogue with the Chair of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Chair of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations, Member States and indigenous peoples on the implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.[1] The Forum also held an interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples. The recommendations below reflect issues that arose at the twelfth session that are of universal character or of an urgent nature.

4. The Forum acknowledges and accepts the study on the situation of indigenous persons with disabilities, with a particular focus on challenges faced with respect to the full enjoyment of human rights and inclusion in development (E/C.19/2013/6). The Forum recommends that the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities pay special attention to, and take immediate action to respond to, the situation of indigenous persons and peoples with disabilities and encourage the United Nations system to facilitate the translation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities[2] into indigenous languages.

* E/C.19/2013/1.

[1] General Assembly resolution 61/295, annex.

[2] General Assembly resolution 61/106, annex I.

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5. The Forum welcomes the World Heritage Committee agreement to establish a sessional working group on the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention, in order to revise them and include indigenous peoples' human rights, including the principle of free, prior and informed consent. The Forum recommends that the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the World Heritage Committee implement the World Heritage Convention according to the rights enshrined in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and a human rights-based approach.

6. The Forum is alarmed by the continuing acts of violence being perpetrated against indigenous peoples by Member States and others. Therefore, the Forum acknowledges the need for States to establish a monitoring mechanism to address violence against indigenous peoples, including assassinations; assassination attempts; rapes; and intimidation of indigenous peoples in their attempts to safeguard and use their homelands and territories that transcend national borders, including the non-recognition of their membership identification and documents, and the criminalization of their related activities. Specific attention must be paid to such actions being perpetrated by State and local police, the military, law enforcement institutions, the judiciary and other State-controlled institutions against indigenous peoples.

7. Extremely concerned about the physical and moral violence being perpetrated against indigenous human rights defenders, the Forum recommends the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders to prepare a report devoted to these alarming conditions and actions, especially in the context of indigenous women and children.

8. The Forum welcomes the unprecedented judgment against Efrain Rios Montt for genocide and crimes against the Mayan Ixil peoples during the 1980s in Guatemala. The acknowledgment of the historical reality of the Maya Ixil and many other indigenous peoples may contribute to recognition of the genocide and other gross human rights violations perpetrated against indigenous peoples in all parts of the world and ultimately lead to reconciliation between indigenous peoples and States.

9. The Forum requests Member States to establish specific mechanisms at the national level in order to open and sustain dialogue between indigenous peoples and governmental ministries to review the implementation of the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, the work of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the recommendations of the Forum. The Forum requests United Nations agencies at the national level to facilitate such dialogue and that corresponding national mechanisms be established.

10. The Forum welcomes the recent entry into force of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. The Forum encourages Member States to accede to the Optional Protocol and requests the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights to consider the preparation of a general comment on the economic, social and cultural rights of indigenous peoples.

11. The Forum welcomes the recent publication of the adolescent-friendly version of the United Nations Declaration by the United Nations Children's Fund, the Forum and the Global Indigenous Youth Caucus. The Forum recommends that Member States and indigenous peoples translate this publication into all languages, in particular indigenous languages. The Forum also recommends Member States,

indigenous peoples and others to use this publication in the curricula of studies of indigenous youth and non-indigenous youth.

12. The Forum reiterates its recommendation to the International Labour Organization (ILO) to accommodate and guarantee the direct participation of indigenous peoples' organizations in ILO procedures, in particular those related to compliance with the ILO Convention concerning the Protection and Integration of Indigenous and Other Tribal and Semi-Tribal Populations in Independent Countries (Convention No. 107) and the ILO Convention concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries (Convention No. 169) and their corresponding recourse mechanisms. The Forum reiterates its call upon respective Member States to accede to the ILO Convention concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples (Convention No. 169).

13. Recalling recommendations 4 through 11 of its report on its tenth session[3] and the adoption of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Forum expresses alarm regarding the contemporary application of the erroneous and discredited "doctrine of discovery" and its underlying assumptions, which promote the purported inferiority of indigenous peoples. This doctrine was applied in June 2012 by the British Columbia Court of Appeal to deny the land rights and title of the Tsilhqot'in to their traditional lands and territories by stating "European explorers considered that by virtue of the 'principle of discovery' they were at liberty to claim territory in North America on behalf of their sovereigns". The Forum strongly recommends that States, human rights bodies and judiciaries denounce the "doctrine of discovery" and discontinue its use and application.

14. The Forum requests that Member States and other potential donors increase their contributions to the Voluntary Fund on Indigenous Populations, the United Nations Indigenous Peoples' Partnership, and the Trust Fund on Indigenous Issues in order to guarantee the exercise of the right of indigenous peoples to participate in United Nations meetings of specific concern to them.

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[3] E/2011/43-E/C.19/2011/14.

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Agenda item 5
Comprehensive dialogue with United Nations agencies and funds

Follow-up on the recommendations of the Permanent Forum

Comprehensive dialogue with United Nations agencies and funds

1. The Permanent Forum has identified the proposals, objectives, recommendations and areas of possible future action set out below and, through the Economic and Social Council, recommends that States, entities of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations, indigenous peoples, the private sector and non-governmental organizations assist in their realization.

2. It is the understanding of the secretariat that the proposals, objectives, recommendations and areas of possible future action to be carried out by the United Nations, as set out below, will be implemented to the extent that resources from the regular budget and extrabudgetary resources are available.

3. The Permanent Forum engaged in an interactive dialogue with the international financial institutions (the World Bank, the African Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank and the International Finance Corporation). Development projects financed by international financial institutions have significant impacts on the rights and livelihoods of indigenous peoples, who worldwide constitute a disproportionately high percentage of the poor and who have lower levels of education and a greater incidence of disease and discrimination than other groups. The Forum welcomes the opportunity to engage in a dialogue with the multilateral development banks — the first of its kind in the operative years of the Forum — and hopes that it will result in a more structured relationship between the Forum and the banks and that it will feed into the outcome of the processes to review and update safeguard policies that many of the banks are currently undertaking.

4. The Permanent Forum recommends that international financial institutions unequivocally acknowledge the collective right of indigenous peoples to their lands, territories and resources in their safeguard policies and in all development project contexts (not merely in exceptional circumstances). Banks should not support any projects that affect indigenous peoples without prior recognition of and effective

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guarantees for their collective rights to own, control and manage their lands, territories and resources.

5. The Permanent Forum recommends that international financial institutions adopt and incorporate the right of indigenous peoples to free, prior and informed consent, without qualification, into their safeguard policies and project-related instruments. International financial institutions must ensure that their clients and borrowers engage in processes with indigenous peoples affected by bank-financed projects to secure their free, prior and informed consent.

6. The Permanent Forum demands that the World Bank brings its policy on indigenous peoples (OP 4.10) into full compliance with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The Forum attaches particular importance to the need for the Bank to adopt the standard of free, prior and informed consent and, in general, to institutionalize and operationalize an approach based on human rights. The Forum reiterates its recommendation, made at its twelfth session, that the emerging instruments of the Bank and other agencies must be harmonized with the Declaration, which is regarded as a reflection of the minimum human rights standards necessary for the promotion and protection of indigenous peoples, nations and communities. Such instruments should be consistent with or exceed those minimum standards. The Forum underlines the need for the Bank's operational policies to use language that is consistent with the Declaration.

7. The Forum notes with concern the unsatisfactory implementation of the World Bank's policy on indigenous peoples, as documented by many of the Bank's internal reviews, most notably the 2011 internal review report and the 2010 report by the Independent Evaluation Group, *Safeguards and Sustainability Policies in a Changing World*. Strict adherence to safeguards of indigenous peoples' rights is necessary. The Forum recommends that efforts be directed towards compliance machinery within the Bank, both up front, when dealing with projects and design and approval processes, and in post-project enforcement mechanisms.

8. The Forum also notes with concern that the World Bank's operational policies, including its policy on indigenous peoples, have limited application, covering only investment lending and not other Bank operations. The Forum recommends that the outcome target of the Bank's process to review and update its safeguards be a set of safeguards and follow-up mechanisms covering all finance instruments and all other Bank operations.

9. The Permanent Forum calls upon the World Bank to strengthen its accountability mechanisms so that they focus on situations in which its funded projects adversely affect indigenous peoples and also to proactively implement specific measures to meaningfully contribute to the progressive realization of the right of indigenous peoples to self-determination.

10. The Permanent Forum recommends that the World Bank, in consultation with the Forum, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples and the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, examine the involuntary resettlement of indigenous peoples in connection with projects financed by the Bank and submit a report thereon in 2014.

11. The Permanent Forum takes note of the World Bank's announcement that it will establish an indigenous peoples advisory council. The Forum accepts the

invitation to contribute to this process in order to put in place a balanced and transparent consultations process to shape this advisory council.

12. The Permanent Forum calls upon the Nordic Trust Fund of the World Bank to ensure that the recipients of its funds, which include many multilateral development banks, fully respect the rights of indigenous peoples. The Forum recommends that the Nordic Trust Fund use its resources to influence multilateral development banks to implement their operational policies fully.

13. The Forum appreciates the steps taken by the African Development Bank to include safeguards for indigenous peoples in its integrated safeguards system. The Forum is concerned, however, that the Bank remains the only multilateral bank not to have a stand-alone safeguard policy for indigenous peoples. The Forum recommends that the Bank fast-track, in coordination with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and other regional bodies, a regional policy framework for indigenous peoples in line with the provisions of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights and report on progress to the Forum at its thirteenth session, in 2014. The Forum further recommends that the Bank develop a mechanism specifically to support the entrepreneurship activities of indigenous peoples.

14. The Forum urges the Asian Development Bank, in projects that it funds, including the Chittagong Hill Tracts rural development project in Bangladesh, to ensure that it avoids adverse impacts on indigenous peoples and their watersheds and other fragile ecosystems and to promote the rights of indigenous peoples to land and resources.

15. The Permanent Forum encourages international financial institutions to establish policy mechanisms and programme frameworks requiring corporations to comply with the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, which were unanimously endorsed by the Human Rights Council in 2011, in addition to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, International Labour Organization Convention No. 169, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

16. The Permanent Forum takes note of the report on indigenous people's rights and safeguards in projects related to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (E/C.19/2013/7), including its conclusions and recommendations.

17. The Permanent Forum, noting the significance for indigenous peoples of the negotiations under way at the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) on intellectual property and genetic resources, traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions, strongly encourages representatives of indigenous peoples to participate in those negotiations, consistent with article 18 of the Declaration.

18. The Permanent Forum welcomes the role that the WIPO Voluntary Fund for Accredited Indigenous and Local Communities has played since 2005 in funding the participation of indigenous peoples in sessions of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore and calls upon States, foundations and other organizations to contribute to the Fund.

19. The Permanent Forum, recalling the comprehensive dialogue held with the WIPO secretariat at its eleventh session, in 2012, and the recommendations that it

then addressed to WIPO, acknowledges the activities undertaken by WIPO to date in response to the recommendations and welcomes, in particular, the holding of an indigenous expert workshop in April 2013, jointly organized by the secretariats of the Forum and WIPO, as recommended by the Forum.

20. The Permanent Forum welcomes the holding of the first global meeting of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum at the headquarters of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) in Rome on 11 and 12 February 2013, in conjunction with the thirty-sixth session of the IFAD Governing Council. The Permanent Forum is encouraged by the dialogues between the members of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum and the members of the IFAD Governing Council, including the presentation of the declaration adopted at the global meeting. The Permanent Forum urges further and continued dialogue between IFAD and indigenous peoples, consonant with the IFAD policy on engagement with indigenous peoples, including the monitoring of IFAD-funded projects involving indigenous peoples.

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Draft report

Rapporteur: Ms. Eva **Biaudet**

Chapter I
Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention

A. Draft decisions recommended by the Permanent Forum for adoption by the Council

1. The Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decisions:

Draft decision I
International expert group meeting on the theme "Sexual and reproductive rights: articles 21, 22 (1), 23 and 24 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples"

The Economic and Social Council decides to authorize a three-day international expert group meeting on the theme "Sexual and reproductive rights: articles 21, 22 (1), 23 and 24 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples".

Draft decision II
Venue and dates of the thirteenth session of the Permanent Forum

The Economic and Social Council decides that the thirteenth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues shall be held at United Nations Headquarters in New York, from 12 to 23 May 2014.

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Draft decision III
Report of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues on its twelfth session and provisional agenda for its thirteenth session

The Economic and Social Council,

(a) Takes note of the report of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues on its twelfth session;

(b) Approves the provisional agenda for the thirteenth session of the Permanent Forum as set out below:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Special theme: "Principles of good governance consistent with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: articles 3 to 6 and 46 (3)".
4. Human rights:
   (a) Implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;
   (b) Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples.
5. Half-day discussion on the Asian region.
6. Half-day discussion on the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples.
7. Ongoing priorities and themes and follow-up:
   (a) Indigenous children;
   (b) Indigenous youth;
   (c) Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People;
   (d) Post-2015 development agenda.
8. Comprehensive dialogue with United Nations agencies and funds.
9. Future work of the Permanent Forum, including emerging issues.
10. Draft agenda for the fourteenth session of the Permanent Forum.
11. Adoption of the report of the Permanent Forum on its thirteenth session.

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Draft report

Rapporteur: Ms. Eva **Biaudet**

Chapter I
Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention

A. Draft decisions recommended by the Permanent Forum for adoption by the Council

1. The Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

Draft decision IV
Change of name of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

The Economic and Social Council decides to change the name of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues to the Permanent Forum on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

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Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
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Agenda item 6

Follow-up on the recommendations of the Permanent Forum

Discussion on the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples

1. The Permanent Forum has identified the proposals, objectives, recommendations and areas of possible future action set out below, and through the Economic and Social Council, recommends that States, entities of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations, indigenous peoples, the private sector and non-governmental organizations assist in their realization.

2. It is the understanding of the Secretariat that the proposals, objectives, recommendations and areas of possible future action to be carried out by the United Nations, as set out below, will be implemented to the extent that resources from the regular budget and extrabudgetary resources are available.

3. The Permanent Forum reaffirms the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as the normative framework for the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples. The provisions of General Assembly resolution 66/296 regarding the organization of the high-level plenary meeting of the sixty-ninth session of the Assembly, to be known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, must be given the widest and most generous interpretation possible in order to achieve the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples.

4. The Permanent Forum welcomes the work undertaken by indigenous peoples in the regional and thematic caucus preparatory meetings and the Indigenous Global Coordinating Group drafting group and looks forward to the forthcoming recommendations of the Global Preparatory Indigenous Peoples' Conference on the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, to be held in Alta, Norway, from 10 to 12 June 2013, the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and the regional preparatory meetings and their respective contributions to the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples. All conclusions and recommendations that arise from those activities must be taken into consideration in the decision-making related to the World Conference itself. The Forum wishes to draw attention to the collective objective of ensuring constructive informal hearings,

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interactive round tables, panel discussions and the adoption of an action-oriented outcome document of the Conference.

5. The Permanent Forum expresses its gratitude to the Government of Guatemala and to the United Nations country team in Guatemala for organizing the meeting of the United Nations International Experts on Indigenous Peoples' Rights, which included the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples and the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the co-facilitators and the Indigenous Global Coordinating Group, in preparation for the 2014 World Conference, which was held in Tikal, Guatemala, on 20 and 21 December 2012.

6. The Permanent Forum welcomes the confirmation of the Government of Mexico to hold a regional and thematic preparatory meeting with the participation of United Nations Member States, indigenous peoples and the United Nations system, the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples and the Permanent Forum to build further consensus on the process and content of the World Conference and its related discussions. The Permanent Forum appoints Saul Vicente as a focal point to work with the Government of Mexico in the preparations for the regional preparatory meeting.

7. The Permanent Forum welcomes the interest of the Governments of Botswana and the Congo to support the rights of indigenous peoples in the region, including the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples process, and encourages other African governments to follow this good practice.

8. The Permanent Forum welcomes the preparation by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean of the study entitled "Rights of indigenous peoples: achievements and challenges in the Latin American countries", and encourages other regional commissions to undertake similar studies.

9. The Permanent Forum reiterates that the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples constitutes a key forum for the achievement of more effective coordination and coherence in supporting the preparations for and the participation of indigenous peoples in the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples and recommends stronger engagement and the participation of all agencies, programmes and funds in the work of the Inter-Agency Support Group.

10. The Permanent Forum considers that the conclusion of the Global Preparatory Indigenous Peoples' Conference on the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, to be held in Alta, Norway, from 10 to 12 June 2013, should be considered as a firm base for the identification of specific themes for the round table and panel discussions under the auspices of the General Assembly.

11. The Permanent Forum recommends to the President of the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly the continuation of the practice, established during the sixty-sixth session of the Assembly, to appoint a State representative and an indigenous peoples' representative to conduct inclusive informal consultations on his behalf, in order to build consensus on the themes of the round table and panel discussions and the contents of the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples as well as to ensure the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples in the process.

12. The Permanent Forum further recommends to the President of the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly that an informal interactive hearing be organized, back-to-back with, but separate from, the thirteenth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. This will ensure that those representatives of indigenous peoples who are attending the Permanent Forum are also able to participate in the informal interactive hearing without the need to return to New York at a later date and incur further travel and other related expenditures.

13. The Permanent Forum notes that the Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat will devote additional resources to support the preparations of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, also through the 60 United Nations information centres around the world.

14. The Permanent Forum notes the engagement of the Inter-Parliamentary Union in the preparations for the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, and recommends that the Union organize meetings of parliamentarians at the global, regional and country levels to discuss the adoption of legislative and administrative measures affecting indigenous peoples and to encourage the participation of parliamentarians, including indigenous parliamentarians, in the World Conference and its preparatory processes. Such meetings should draw upon the positive developments from the conference facilitated by the Inter-Parliamentary Union, which was held in Chiapas, Mexico, 2010 and which led to the adoption of the Chiapas Declaration.

15. The Permanent Forum invites the indigenous peoples' caucus and the Indigenous Global Coordinating Group to ensure the equal and inclusive participation of indigenous women, elderly persons, young people, and persons with disabilities in the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples and its preparatory processes.

16. The Permanent Forum encourages the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, in particular the Division of Social Policy and Development and the secretariat of the Permanent Forum, to maintain regular interaction at the staff level with the Office of the President of the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly in the interest of greater coherence, coordination and cooperation, with regard to the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, each acting in accordance with their respective mandates. The Forum further requests the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat to provide additional financial, logistical and human resources to the secretariat of the Permanent Forum for it to carry out its responsibilities in this regard.

17. The Permanent Forum reiterates its recommendation that indigenous peoples have equal participation in the drafting of all documents that emerge from the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples process, including any outcome document.

18. The Permanent Forum takes note of the note by the Secretariat transmitting the study on the rights of indigenous peoples and truth commissions and other truth-seeking mechanisms on the American continent (E/C.19/2013/13), its conclusions and recommendations. The Forum recommends that States take steps to establish truth commissions in situations of reported human rights violations against indigenous peoples. The Forum underlines that the full and effective participation of affected indigenous peoples is a precondition for the establishment and work of truth commissions.

19. Relevant United Nations agencies dealing with indigenous peoples' issues should take action on the inclusion of indigenous persons with disabilities in all their activities, make their websites accessible to persons with disabilities, promote the increased participation of indigenous persons with disabilities in their annual sessions and consider having expert sessions on indigenous persons with disabilities.

20. The Forum recommends that all Member States and inter-governmental agencies establish a monitoring mechanism to ensure that efficient programming is developed in order for the positive transformation of social problems stemming from the weak and inadequate implementation of articles 7, 17, 21 and 22 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. This programming has to be targeted at indigenous youth for fundamental change.

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Future work of the Permanent Forum, including issues of the Economic and Social Council and emerging issues

Draft agenda for the thirteenth session of the Permanent Forum

Follow-up on the recommendations of the Permanent Forum

Future work

1. The Permanent Forum has identified the proposals, objectives, recommendations and areas of possible future action set out below and, through the Economic and Social Council, recommends that States, entities of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations, indigenous peoples, the private sector and non-governmental organizations assist in their realization.

2. It is the understanding of the Secretariat that the proposals, objectives, recommendations and areas of possible future action to be carried out by the United Nations, as set out below, will be implemented to the extent that resources from the regular budget and extrabudgetary resources are available.

3. The Permanent Forum welcomes the efforts of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to endorse the political participation of indigenous peoples in Latin America and the Caribbean and its support in the preparation of the report on democracy and indigenous peoples in the region. The Forum recommends to UNDP that it extend this good practice to other regions and follow up regularly.

4. The Permanent Forum welcomes the evaluation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People that took place in Guatemala, the results of which were presented to the experts of the Permanent Forum, the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples. The Forum recommends that similar practices be implemented by other United Nations country teams and other countries.

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